

**Introduced by Senator Morrell**

February 18, 2016

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An act to amend Section 871.5 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to telecommunications.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SB 1205, as introduced, Morrell. Telecommunications: universal service.

Existing law, the Moore Universal Telephone Service Act, establishes the Universal Lifeline Telephone Service program to provide low-income households with access to affordable basic residential telephone service. The act makes legislative findings and declarations regarding lifeline telephone service.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to those findings and declarations.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 871.5 of the Public Utilities Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 871.5. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- 4 (a) The offering of high-quality basic telephone service at
- 5 affordable rates to the greatest number of citizens has been a
- 6 longstanding goal of the state.
- 7 (b) The Moore Universal Telephone Service Act has been, and
- 8 continues to be, an important means for achieving universal service

1 by making basic telephone service affordable to low-income  
2 households through the creation of a lifeline class of service.

3 (c) Every means should be employed by the commission and  
4 telephone corporations to ensure that every household qualified  
5 to receive lifeline telephone service is informed ~~of~~ *of*, and is  
6 afforded the opportunity ~~to~~ *to*, subscribe to that service.

7 (d) The furnishing of lifeline telephone service is in the public  
8 interest and should be supported fairly and equitably by every  
9 telephone corporation, and the commission, in administering the  
10 lifeline telephone service program, should implement the program  
11 in a way that is equitable, nondiscriminatory, and without  
12 competitive consequences for the telecommunications industry in  
13 ~~California~~ *this state*.